

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This is a complete and current listing of the claims, marked with status identifiers in parentheses. The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Cancelled)
2. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 6, wherein the yoke and the housing are cast with each other by use of a casting compound.
3. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~claims~~claim 2, wherein the drive solenoid, the yoke and the housing are cast with each other by use of a unitary casting compound.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~claim 4~~claim 6, wherein the casting material is a hard casting material.
6. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic switching device, comprising:
a housing
a drive solenoid;
a yoke;
an armature; and
at least one contact, the drive solenoid, the yoke, the armature and the
at least one contact being mounted in the housing, the drive solenoid, the yoke
and the armature being inductively intercoupled, so that, when an inrush
current is applied to the drive solenoid, the armature is displaceable into a

pickup position, the displacement of the armature into the pickup position allowing the contact to be directly or indirectly actuated,

the yoke containing pulverulent magnetic material, wherein
the drive solenoid and the yoke are cast with each other by way
of a permanently elastic casting compound to form a block~~The switching~~
~~device as claimed in claim 4,~~

the housing comprises an upper housing part and a lower
housing part, detachably connected to each other, wherein the lower
housing part includes, at least partly, a casting material and wherein the
drive solenoid and the yoke are connected to the casting material by way
of the permanently elastic casting material and wherein

fastening elements for connecting the upper housing part to the
lower housing part to each other are arranged in the casting material.

7. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~claim 4~~claim 6, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.
8. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 6, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material is sintered material.
9. (Currently Amended) The switching device as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 6, wherein the pulverulent magnetic material is mixed with a polymer compound.
10. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic switching device, comprising:
a housing
a drive solenoid;
a yoke;
an armature; and
at least one contact, the drive solenoid, the yoke, the armature and the
at least one contact being mounted in the housing, the drive solenoid, the yoke
and the armature being inductively intercoupled, so that, when an inrush

current is applied to the drive solenoid, the armature is displaceable into a pickup position, the displacement of the armature into the pickup position allowing the contact to be directly or indirectly actuated, the yoke containing pulverulent magnetic material, wherein

the drive solenoid and the yoke are cast with each other by way of a permanently elastic casting compound to form a block~~The switching device as claimed in claim 1, and~~ wherein the pulverulent magnetic material surrounds at least one of a soft iron core, a highly permeable material and a permanent magnet.

11. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic switching device, comprising:
a housing
a drive solenoid;
a yoke;
an armature; and
at least one contact, the drive solenoid, the yoke, the armature and the
at least one contact being mounted in the housing, the drive solenoid, the yoke
and the armature being inductively intercoupled, so that, when an inrush
current is applied to the drive solenoid, the armature is displaceable into a
pickup position, the displacement of the armature into the pickup position
allowing the contact to be directly or indirectly actuated, the yoke containing
pulverulent magnetic material, wherein
the drive solenoid and the yoke are cast with each other by way of
a permanently elastic casting compound to form a block~~The switching device as claimed in claim 1, and~~ wherein a sensor, inductively coupled to a conductor connected to the contact by way of a coupling element containing a pulverulent magnetic material, is arranged in the housing.

12. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the sensor is formed as at least one of a magnetic field sensor and a flux-change sensor.

13. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the sensor and the coupling element are cast with each other.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Currently Amended) An electromagnetic switching device, comprising:

a housing

a drive solenoid;

a yoke;

an armature; and

at least one contact, the drive solenoid, the yoke, the armature and the at least one contact being mounted in the housing, the drive solenoid, the yoke and the armature being inductively intercoupled, so that, when an inrush current is applied to the drive solenoid, the armature is displaceable into a pickup position, the displacement of the armature into the pickup position allowing the contact to be directly or indirectly actuated, the yoke containing pulverulent magnetic material, wherein

the drive solenoid and the yoke are cast with each other by way of a permanently elastic casting compound to form a block~~The switching device as claimed in claim 1, and~~ wherein the switching device is at least one of a contactor and a power circuit breaker.

17. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 5, wherein fastening elements for connecting the upper housing part to the lower housing part to each other are arranged in the casting material.

18. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 5, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.

19. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 6, wherein fastening elements for connecting the lower housing part to a fastening surface are arranged in the lower housing part.
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Previously Presented) The switching device as claimed in claim 12, wherein the sensor and the coupling element are cast with each other.